



RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO CREATE A FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION.

WHEREAS, according to the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, the Hawaiian Archipelago is the most remote island chain in the world, located more than 1,000 miles away from the nearest country, Kiribati, and more than 2,000 miles away from the nearest continent, North America; and

WHEREAS, in the 1970s Hawaii produced enough eggs, milk, livestock, hogs, and pigs to be mostly self-sufficient, but today only about 100 egg farms and two dairies remain and livestock, hog, and pig production have also declined;

WHEREAS, several reports published by the State of Hawaii ("State") Office of Planning, such as the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and the Increased Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy, estimate that between 85 and 90 percent of Hawaii's food is imported; and

WHEREAS, due to Hawaii's remoteness and its heavy reliance on imported food, residents and tourists would be vulnerable to severe food shortages if a natural disaster affected the ability of cargo ships to arrive or unload cargo; and

WHEREAS, increasing food security and food self-sufficiency would provide many benefits to the State and the City and County of Honolulu ("City"); and

WHEREAS, the State's Office of Planning estimates that replacing just 10 percent of food that is currently imported would keep approximately \$313 million in the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the Increased Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy reported that increasing food self-sufficiency would:

1. Keep money circulating in Hawaii's economy rather than supporting the agricultural industry of other states or countries;
2. Help diversify Hawaii's economy;
3. Reduce Hawaii's carbon footprint by transporting less food over long distances;
4. Reduce food transportation costs;



RESOLUTION

5. Decrease the risk of introducing harmful invasive species of pests;
6. Promote healthier lifestyles and good nutrition; and
7. Secure Hawaii against disruptions to food supply lines; and

WHEREAS, although a variety of rules, regulations, laws, and programs exist to address food security and food self-sufficiency, there is currently no point person coordinating the different efforts and initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the City has adopted the Oahu Resilience Strategy, which is composed of 44 resilience actions to directly address the challenge of long-term affordability and the impacts of climate crises, including action item number 10, "Promote New Agricultural Models for Economic and Food Security"; and

WHEREAS, a Food Security and Sustainability Administrator position within the City could unite stakeholders around a common mission of improving food security, sufficiency, and sustainability and determine what additional steps need to be taken to both build climate resilience and provide equitable benefits to the community; and

WHEREAS, at least 22 other cities, such as Baltimore, Maryland; New York City, New York; and Seattle, Washington, have created similar positions; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it urges the City Administration to create a Food Security and Sustainability Administrator position within the City; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the functions of the Food Security and Sustainability Administrator position include the following:

1. Acting as a point person to unite the many government agencies (federal, State and City), nonprofits, and businesses working to address issues in the City's food system, including food supply, production, transportation and distribution;
2. Convening and coordinating private, public, and nonprofit sector groups working to address issues of Oahu's food and agricultural systems;
3. Supporting and enhancing existing programming in public, private, and nonprofit sectors;



RESOLUTION

4. Connecting community nonprofit programs with relevant government departments to bolster program success and City goals;
5. Focusing on poverty-related affordability and the promotion of a sustainable food system;
6. Identifying gaps in existing programming and service coverage;
7. Discerning and advocating for relevant food policy initiatives;
8. Shrinking food deserts and increasing access to healthy foods for low-income residents; and
9. Advancing food-related actions to promote food security, self-sufficiency, and sustainability for the island of Oahu; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor and the Managing Director.

INTRODUCED BY:

Tommy Waters

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

September 25, 2019
Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

RESOLUTION 19-242, FD1

Introduced: 09/25/19 By: TOMMY WATERS

Committee: PUBLIC SAFETY AND
WELFARE

Title: RESOLUTION URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO CREATE A FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY
ADMINISTRATOR POSITION.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

10/24/19	PUBLIC SAFETY AND WELFARE	CR-345 – RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION. 4 AYES: FUKUNAGA, MANAHAN, TSUNEYOSHI, WATERS. 1 EXCUSED: MENOR.
11/06/19	COUNCIL	RESOLUTION AMENDED TO FD1. 7 AYES: ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MENOR, PINE, WATERS. 2 ABSENT: ANDERSON, TSUNEYOSHI. CR-345 AND RESOLUTION 19-242, FD1 WERE ADOPTED. 7 AYES: ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MENOR, PINE, WATERS. 2 ABSENT: ANDERSON, TSUNEYOSHI.

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.



GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK



IKAIKA ANDERSON, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER